

Southern Regional Research Laboratory
New Orleans, Louisiana

September 29, 1949

To: Director and Laboratory Staff
 From: Survey and Appraisal
 Subject: SURVEY NOTES

FARM SITUATION

With overall business activity still relatively high, demand for farm products continues strong. Supplies, however, will continue to exert a downward pressure on prices in the next few months, as the large crops in prospect for 1949 are harvested. On August 1, the year's total production of all crops was estimated at 130 percent of the 1923-32 average.

The decline in overall industrial activity which began early this year continued through most of July. In the latter part of the month and in early August, however, indications pointed to reversal of the downward trend in output in some industries. These and other signs of strength in the Nation's economy, notably the continued high levels of construction activity and personal income and the increase in new orders booked by manufacturers, suggest that the decline in overall economic activity has begun to taper off, at least temporarily. Piece-meal adjustments will continue as output in some sectors becomes adjusted to the more normal peacetime patterns of demand.

The Demand and Price Situation, August 1949, p.1.

COTTON - LINTCROP OF 14.9 BALES INDICATED BY SEPTEMBER CONDITIONS

As of September 1 of this year, an indicated production of 14,943,000 bales (500-pounds gross weight) for the United States is shown by the Crop Reporting Board. Condition of the crop was 74 percent of normal, with an indicated area of 25,907,000 acres left for harvest. An estimated 1.8 percent of the planted acreage has been abandoned.

Cotton Production, BAE, September 8, 1949.

COTTON CONSUMPTION UP IN AUGUST

Cotton consumption was 664,133 bales during August as compared to 455,106 bales in July this year and 728,863 bales in August 1948. Stocks on hand August 31 were 4.6 million bales, or 1.7 million bales greater than a year ago. Spindle activity was up in August.

Table 1.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours in cotton mills

| | August 1949 | July 1949 | June 1949 | August 1948 |
|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Consumption, bales..... | 664,133 | 455,106 | 600,495 | 728,863 |
| On hand, 1000 bales..... | 4,634 | 5,027 | 5,465 | 2,973 |
| Active spindle hours, billions.. | 8.3 | 5.6 | 7.5 | 9.4 |
| Spindle activity, percent of 80-hour capacity 1/..... | 102.5 | 79.6 | 95.6 | 119.6 |

1/ Includes activity on fibers other than cotton, totaling 0.3 to 0.6 billion spindle hours for each month shown.

COTTON PRICE CONTINUES TO DROP; FABRIC PRICES AND MILL MARGINS UP IN AUGUST

The delivered-at-mill price of Middling 15/16" cotton was 31.38 cents per pound on September 22, or 1.81 cents lower than the average price for August 1949. Viscose and acetate staple prices were unchanged from last month. This price for cotton was 0.23 cents higher than the current price for viscose staple rayon and 6 cents cheaper than the price for acetate staple rayon. Fabric prices (average of 17 constructions) and mill margins increased in August, the first increase over the preceding month since December 1947.

Table 2.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins in cents.

| | Sept. 22 1949 | August 1949 | July 1949 | June 1949 | August 1948 |
|--|------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <u>Cotton, Middling 15/16"</u> | : | : | : | : | : |
| delivered at mills, lb..... | 31.38 | 33.19 | 34.06 | 34.37 | 33.21 |
| <u>Rayon, viscose staple</u> | : | : | : | : | : |
| equivalent price 1/, lb..... | 31.15 | 31.15 | 31.15 | 31.15 | 32.93 |
| <u>Rayon, acetate staple</u> | : | : | : | : | : |
| equivalent price 1/, lb..... | 37.38 | 37.38 | 37.38 | 37.38 | 42.72 |
| <u>Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions</u> | : | : | : | : | : |
| Price for cloth from 1 lb. of cotton ^{2/} | - | 61.38 | 59.99 | 60.22 | 77.06 |
| Mill margins ^{3/} | - | 30.61 | 28.18 | 27.75 | 46.34 |
| <u>Sheeting, 37" 4.00, yd. 4/.....</u> | 16.00 | 15.50 | 15.50 | 15.50 | 16.50 |
| <u>Osnaburg, 36" 2.35, yd. 5/.....</u> | 20.00 | 19.05 | 19.00 | 19.50 | 21.75 |
| <u>Printcloth, 38-1/2" 5.35, yd. 4/.....</u> | 15.00 | 13.25 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 17.50 |
| | : | : | : | : | : |

1/ Cost to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x .89).
2/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for saleable waste (Cotton Branch, PMA).
3/ Difference between cloth prices and price's (10-market average) of cotton assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, PMA).
4/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.
5/ From Daily News Record.

AMERICAN-EGYPTIAN LOAN RATES FOR 1949 ANNOUNCED

Loan rates on the 1949-crop American Egyptian cotton having staple lengths of 1-3/8 inches and longer were announced recently by the Department of Agriculture. The loan rate for grade No. 2, 1-1/2 inches, usually considered the base quality, will be 57.85 cents per pound, net weight, in the Arizona-California area and 58.10 cents per pound, net weight, in the New Mexico-West Texas area.

Cotton Trade Journal, September 16, 1949, p.8.

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND EQUIPMENT

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY CONSUMING FABRIC AT THE RATE OF 125 MILLION SQUARE YARDS PER YEAR

At their current output rate, automobile manufacturers are consuming close to 125 million square yards of interior trim cloth for seat upholstery, roof and sidewall fabric, and in other parts of the body interior. Content of this cloth

varies widely from one car to another, some using a high percentage of nylon while the majority use wool mixed with rayon and cotton.

Wall Street Journal, September 9, 1949, p. 1.

COTTON PRODUCTS

BAGS: SEPTEMBER COTTON AND BURLAP FLOUR BAG PRICES RISE

On September 15, the price of 100-pound cotton flour bags was \$232.00 per thousand, or \$6.00 higher than last month's quotation. Burlap flour bags were up \$1.80 per thousand, paper bags unchanged. The net cost (based on the difference between prices for new and used bags) for using new cotton flour bags was \$107.00 per thousand; burlap, \$123.30 per thousand; and paper, \$96.20 per thousand.

Table 3.- Mid-month prices of 100-pound flour bags

(Dollars per thousand).

| | September 1949 | August 1949 | July 1949 | September 1948 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <u>Prices, new, St. Louis 1/</u> | | | | |
| Cotton..... | 232.00 | 226.00 | 221.00 | 238.00 |
| Burlap..... | 228.30 | 226.50 | 206.80 | 233.70 |
| Paper..... | 98.70 | 98.70 | 98.70 | 114.05 |
| <u>Prices, second-hand, New York</u> | | | | |
| Cotton, once-used 2/..... | 125.00 | 125.00 | 120.00 | 140.00 |
| Cotton, bakery run 3/..... | 90.00 | 85.00 | 80.00 | 105.00 |
| Burlap, once-used 2/..... | 105.00 | 105.00 | 90.00 | 4/ |
| Burlap, bakery run 3/..... | 102.50 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Paper, bakery run 3/..... | 2.50 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 10.00 |
| <u>Difference</u> | | | | |
| Cotton, new minus once-used..... | 107.00 | 101.00 | 101.00 | 98.00 |
| Cotton, new minus bakery run..... | 142.00 | 141.00 | 141.00 | 133.00 |
| Burlap, new minus once-used..... | 123.30 | 121.50 | 116.80 | 4/ |
| Burlap, new minus bakery run..... | 125.80 | 126.50 | 106.80 | 133.70 |
| Paper, new minus bakery run..... | 96.20 | 93.70 | 93.70 | 104.05 |

1/ Cotton, 37" 4.00 yd. sheeting cut 43" unprinted; burlap, 36" 10 oz. cut 43" unprinted; paper, 18 x 4-1/2 x 36-3/4" unprinted; all l.c.l. shipments. No allowance made for quantity or cash discounts. From a large bag manufacturer.

2/ From a large second-hand bag dealer.

3/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.

4/ No data available.

5/ No quotation received.

BAGS: INCREASED USE OF COTTON FABRIC REPORTED IN FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1949

According to the National Cotton Council, Bureau of Census figures combined with all available private reports show the following specific gains in terms of actual yards of cotton cloth cut up by bag manufacturers the first five months of 1949 in comparison with the same period a year ago: (1) 27 percent increase in Class B sheetings, representing a gain of 28 million yards; (2) 49 percent increase in Class C sheetings, representing a gain of 10 million yards; (3) 31 percent gain in major feed and flour bag constructions (40 inch 3.60 yard and 37 inch 4.00 yard); (4) 58 percent increase in print cloths. In consumption of all cotton bag fabrics there has been a general increase of 10 percent, and the number of looms making the principal constructions used by the bag trade is up 13 percent.

Southern Textile News, August 27, 1949, p. 12.

CORDAGE AND TWINE: COTTON 20 PERCENT OF 1947 PRODUCTION

Cordage and twine made of cotton was 20.5 percent of the 470 million pound production in 1947. Cotton was used in 4 percent of the cordage; 99 percent of the braided cord; 29 percent of the wrapping twine; all of the seine twine; 48 percent of the fish lines; and 89 percent of the netting produced.

Table 4.—Production of cordage and twine, United States, 1947
(1000 pounds)

| | Cordage | Braided cord 1/ | Twine | | | Fishline | Netting | Total |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|--------|----------|---------|---------|
| | | | Binder and baler | Wrapping | Seine | | | |
| Soft Fibers | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton..... | 4,842 | 28,680 | | 36,908 | 16,949 | 639 | 8,356 | 96,374 |
| Jute..... | - | - | | 46,915 | - | - | - | 46,915 |
| Paper..... | - | - | | 15,416 | - | - | - | 15,416 |
| Hemp..... | 569 | - | | 8,437 | - | - | - | 8,437 |
| Istle..... | - | - | | 2,442 | - | - | - | 2,442 |
| Linen..... | - | - | | - | - | 273 | - | 273 |
| Nylon..... | - | - | | - | - | 341 | - | 341 |
| Soft fibers 2/ | 1,428 | 336 | | 3,269 | - | 66 | 1,088 | 6,187 |
| Hard Fibers | | | | | | | | |
| Abaca..... | 108,366 | - | | - | - | - | - | 108,366 |
| Agave..... | 24,811 | - | | - | - | - | - | 24,811 |
| Hard fibers 3/ | - | 143,656 4/ | | 14,145 | - | 2,304 | - | 160,105 |
| GRAND TOTAL..... | 140,016 | 29,016 | 143,656 | 127,532 | 16,949 | 2,304 | 1,319 | 9,444 |
| | | | | | | | | 470,236 |

1/ Including rope and cable.

2/ Type of soft fiber used not identified.

3/ Type of hard fiber used not identified.

4/ Combined total consisting of 71,134,000 pounds of binler twine and 72,522,000 pounds of baler twine. Does not include 19,259,000 pounds of binder twine and 1,938,000 pounds of baler twine made in 6 penal institutions in 1947.

From Bureau of Census Reports.

BELTS: HEAVY DUTY BELTS OF NYLON-COTTON GAINING FAVOR

According to Ernest G. Brown, U. S. Rubber Company, nylon-cotton heavy duty belts are gaining favor for use in copper, iron, and coal mines. Nylon yarns are used crosswise the belt and cotton yarns are used longitudinally. The use of nylon in combination with cotton yarns makes possible a greater number of fabric plies, increasing the over-all belt strength by as much as 250 percent. Nylon greatly improves the flexibility of a thick belt so that it will train more easily on the idler pulleys over which it travels. This cuts costs by increasing the tonnage which can be carried on the belt and by reducing the amount of spillage off the sides of the belt. Spillage, often a cause of belt damage, is an expensive housekeeping problem where ore and coal travel long distances above and below ground. The greater strength of the combined nylon-cotton construction means, in addition, a tougher belt which will resist tearing and cutting due to accidents, thereby further reducing the cost of maintenance and repairs.

Journal of Commerce, August 26, 1949, p. 10.

FABRIC: COTTON TO LINE NEW RESERVOIR

A specially constructed 60-inch cotton sheeting will be used as a lining material in the new Baldwin Hills Reservoir to be constructed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, according to the Cotton Textile Institute. The fabric, impregnated with asphalt, will be applied on more than half the total area of the reservoir, or approximately 500,000 square feet, with areas found to be unstable or sandy scheduled to be covered. The Cotton-Textile Institute is now working in collaboration with the Asphalt Institute to devise an optimum low cost fabric membrane that can be prefabricated on a mass production basis. The principal physical characteristics being sought in this material are resistance to mechanical injury, resistance to weed growth, and resistance to deterioration, caused by exposure to the elements or by contact with soil of varying acid and alkali content.

Daily News Record, September 13, 1949, p. 39.

FABRIC: COATED FABRIC STANDS STEAM PRESSURE

Alfred J. Jennings, Bridgeport, Conn., has been granted a patent for a coated cotton fabric which is capable of withstanding steam under pressure up to 70 pounds per square inch. This fabric consists of a woven cotton fabric base with a tough, durable adherent zinc oxide free coating on it. The patent, No. 2,477,336, is assigned to E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co.

Daily News Record, August 3, 1949, p. 24.

NON WOVEN FABRIC: USED IN NEW PLASTIC PRODUCT

Synthane Corporation of Oaks, Pa., manufacturer of laminated phenolic plastics, recently announced its production of a new material with exceptionally high impact fatigue values and superior machinability. These properties, which are obtained without sacrifice in electrical or chemical values, stem from the use of a cotton mat filler whose random fibers lie in all directions rather than in parallel planes as in the case of woven fabrics. Even distribution of the matted, unwoven cotton fibers give the new Grade LRF uniform strength in all directions. As a result, parts made from this material wear much more evenly than those fabricated from conventional woven-fabric-filler plastic laminates.

Southern Textile News, August 27, 1949, p. 15.

TIRE FABRIC: PRICE OF COTTON TIRE FABRIC DROPS AGAIN

Cotton tire fabric prices declined about 1 cent per pound from August 1 to September 1, while rayon fabric prices remained substantially unchanged. Thus, rayon passenger tire fabric was only 2.4 to 3.2 cents per square yard cheaper than the 12/4/2 cotton fabric on September 1, whereas the difference a month earlier was 3.7 - 5.4 cents.

Table 5.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabric, September 1 and August 1, 1949

| Fabric | Cord | Fabric | Price per pound | Price per sq. yd. | | | |
|----------------------|--------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | weight | Sept. 1 | Aug. 1 | Sept. 1 | Aug. 1 | |
| | | per sq.yd. | Pounds | Cents | Cents | Cents | |
| Passenger car tires: | | | | | | | |
| Cotton fabric..... | 12/4/2 | | .86 | 63.5-65.0 | 64.5-67.5 | 54.6-55.9 | 55.5-58.1 |
| Rayon fabric..... | 1650/2 | | .81 1/ | 64.5-65.0 | 64.0-65.0 | 52.2-52.7 | 51.8-52.7 |
| Truck tires | | | | | | | |
| Rayon fabric..... | 1100/2 | | .62 1/ | 67.0 | 67.0 | 41.5 | 41.5 |
| Rayon fabric..... | 2200/2 | | .81 | 63.0 | 63.0 | 51.0 | 51.0 |

1/ These figures represent revised estimates of fabric weights for these two constructions.

Based on reports from independent rubber companies.

NEW CLOTH CHEMICAL FOUND

The DuPont Company claims it has developed a chemical which makes cotton and rayon flame-resistant as well as durable to weather and laundering, but does not change the "feel" of the materials. Properly applied, the chemical has no effect on the draping qualities, appearance, or strength of fabrics. Instead of coating the fiber surface, as do other retardants, the chemical locks into the molecular structure of the fibers, changing them chemically but causing no change in physical properties. It will be used on fabrics in which durability to weather and to cleaning are essential, but probably will not displace existing types of flame-retardants for other purposes.

Southern Textile News, September 3, 1949, p.10.

COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

BLEND: NEW PALM BEACH FABRIC WILL USE NYLON IN BLEND

Mohair, rayon, and nylon will be the fiber mixture of a new palm beach cloth which Goodall-Sanford, Inc. will make available next spring. The new fabric, developed after more than ten years of experimentation, is made by a process called "fiber-lok." This name was chosen because it described the method whereby rayon and nylon are used to sheathe the mohair.

Journal of Commerce, September 6, 1949, p.12.

NYLON: ANTI-KINK SEWING THREAD PERFECTED

According to the A. H. Rice Company, Pittsfield, Mass., it has perfected a new nylon sewing thread which does not kink, twist, or shrink. Known as C. R. (completely relaxed) Nylon, its use is said to result in stronger and smoother seams

due to the relaxed state of the thread. The absence of elongation and shrinkage eliminates seam puckering due to such causes.

Fashion & Development Section, Courtaulds, Ltd.
Vol. 3, No. 41, August 16, 1949, p. 1.

POLYETHYLENE FABRIC: NEW PRESHRINKING METHOD DEVELOPED

The American Viscose Corporation has developed a new finishing treatment which preshrinks polyethylene fabrics to less than 2 percent residual shrinkage at 165 degrees F. This, it is believed, removes the last barrier from the widespread use of polyethylene fabrics in automobile seat covers as well as in upholstery generally, in handbags, luggage, shoes, women's hats, draperies, and various other applications. The new method consists of first treating the fabric in a semi-relaxed state with hot water, hot air or steam. This permits shrinkage in both warp and filling. After shrinkage, the fabric receives a brief steam treatment on a decatizing machine to make it more uniform and flexible. When a final smooth surface is required, as in seating fabrics, calendering is recommended. The treated fabric has a pleasing hand and good flexing qualities.

Southern Textile News, September 3, 1949, p. 6.

RAYON: ADHESIVE FINISH FOR HIGH TENACITY RAYON SEEN IN 1950

An adhesive finish for high tenacity rayon yarn will probably be introduced sometime in 1950. This type of viscose can be expected to find increased consumption in the mechanical rubber field when current research is completed. When rubber manufacturers were first offered rayon, they were pleased with its retention of tensile strength at high temperatures, but were faced with the problem of adhesion. One of cotton's present advantages in the rubber goods field is its ability to adhere to the rubber without processing. Rayon, on the other hand, must be treated by pre-dipping in one of two kinds of latex before it can be used in the manufacture of various rubber products.

Through the development of a finish, yarn producers would be in a position to provide their customers with processed rayon ready for use, thus saving rubber manufacturers the pre-dipping costs. High tenacity viscose given this finish could be stored, if necessary, whereas the rubber manufacturers' pre-dip in latex necessitates immediate use of the rayon. Some of the current applications for rayon in the mechanical rubber goods field which can be expected to consume more rayon when the finish is offered are V-belts, re-inforced rubber hose, diaphragms for pumps and compressors, and conveyor belts.

Journal of Commerce, September 7, 1949, p. 14.

RAYON AND OTHER SYNTHETIC FIBERS: LESS RAYON CLOTH PRODUCED IN 1949; FABRICS OF OTHER SYNTHETIC FIBERS AND SILK INCREASE

Total production of rayon broad woven goods rose every year from 1945 to 1948, but may decline in 1949. The output was only 947 million linear yards during the first half of 1949 against 1,107 million linear yards during the same period of 1948, with production of every type of rayon fabric down.

Meanwhile, the production of broad woven goods made of silk, nylon, glass, and other fibers was up during the first six months of 1949. The gain in production of broad woven goods of this type was due primarily to greater production of 100 percent nylon fabric.

Table 6.- Production of rayon broad woven fabric, United States, for specified years and periods.

| | (Million linear yards) | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Jan.-June | Jan.-June | 1948 | 1947 | 1945 |
| | 1949 | 1948 | | | |
| RAYON BROAD WOVEN FABRIC, TOTAL: | 947.1 | 1,106.6 | 2,168.8 | 1,903.3 | 1,552.1 |
| 100% filament rayon fabrics....: | 633.5 | 686.8 | 1,342.8 | 1,210.4 | 1,028.7 |
| 100% spun rayon fabrics.....: | 144.4 | 199.2 | 377.6 | 294.4 | 162.0 |
| Combination filament and spun rayon fabrics.....: | 85.4 | 119.3 | 256.3 | 182.2 | 159.1 |
| Pile, upholstery, drapery, tapestry, and tie fabrics....: | 18.2 | 23.1 | 41.7 | 46.4 | 31.8 |
| All other rayon mixtures.....: | 65.6 | 78.2 | 150.4 | 169.9 | 170.5 |
| SILK, NYLON, GLASS, AND OTHER FABRICS 1/, TOTAL.....: | 57.7 | 35.9 | 85.6 | 58.2 | 67.4 |
| 100% nylon fabrics.....: | 34.7 | 13.9 | 32.7 | 20.6 | 43.4 |
| 100% silk fabrics.....: | 8.8 | 6.9 | 17.9 | (8.9 | 1.9 |
| Silk mixtures.....: | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.9 | (8.9 | (22.1 |
| Other.....: | 14.0 | 14.7 | 34.1 | 28.7 | |

1/ Also includes fabrics made of casein, other synthetic fibers, and mixtures of rayon and other fibers containing less than 51 percent rayon by weight.

Facts for Industry "Rayon Broad Woven Goods"
Bureau of Census

RAYON: 1.5 MILLION RAYON SUITS EXPECTED IN 1950

According to an excerpt from a brief submitted by the Burlington Mills Corp. to the House Armed Service Committee, the following sales figures were given as evidence of the success of rayon suiting:

1947..... 750,000 rayon suits

1948..... 1,020,000 rayon suits

1949..... 1,305,000 rayon suits

1950 (estimated) 1,500,000 rayon suits

Daily News Record, July 18, 1949, p. 18.

RAYON: NEW ACETATE RED DYE OFFERED

The Tennessee Eastman Corp. is offering for the first time a new group of dyes for use on cellulose acetate fibers. Even in pastel shades, exceptional fastness to light is claimed for this dye, to be known as Eastone Red GLF. Described as a medium shade of red with a yellow cast, its lightfastness is said to far surpass any present acetate red. Other qualities claimed by the company for this dye include excellent fastness to gas fading, sublimation, crocking and hot pressing, with good resistance to perspiration and washing. Dischargeability also is termed good. Exhaustion and level dyeing properties are classified as good, with very good penetration and build-up at temperatures of 160 to 190 degrees Fahrenheit.

Daily News Record, September 8, 1949, p. 31.

RAYON: NEW CONTINUOUS RAYON BLEACH MACHINE DEVELOPED

The Hinnenkens Machine Co. of Patterson, N. J., has developed a machine for the continuous preparation and bleaching of viscose and acetate rayon and silk fabrics. Not only does the machine increase production—a 40,000 yard rate in eight hours has been reached—but fabric processed on the unit shows an increased affinity for dye and print colors. It also is claimed that dyeing for whites is unnecessary after fabrics are bleached.

At least two alternative sequences of operations may be performed on the unit: (1) desizing of starches or proteins, bleaching, preparation for scouring, and scouring; (2) causticizing, bleaching, preparation for scouring, and scouring; and (3) singeing may also be included as a part of the continuous operation.

Tension is under control at all times. The cost of processing is held to be drastically lower compared with separate processing. From three to five distinct operations can be performed with two or three men. Control of the chemicals employed reduces the complete operation to 30 to 40 seconds. The machine is claimed to work equally well on light or heavy fabrics, and they leave the machine in full width and without undue stretch in length and width. The machine can take cloth up to 66 inches in greige width. The machine is about 65 feet long, with a curing unit 28 feet, eight inches high. The remainder of the machine is three feet high and eight feet wide.

Daily News Record, August 15, 1949, p. 16.

WOOL: CONSUMPTION DOWN SHARPLY

According to the Bureau of the Census, total wool consumption, on a scoured basis, was 246.3 million pounds during the first six months of 1949, or 34 percent less than in the same period one year ago. The largest declines—roughly 50 percent—occurred in the worsted spinning industry.

Table 7. Consumption of wool of the sheep, scoured basis,
United States, January-June 1948 and 1949

| | January-June 1949 | January-June 1948 | Change since last year |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Percent |
| TOTAL..... | 246.3 | 374.3 | -34.2 |
| Apparel..... | 156.9 | 268.7 | -41.6 |
| Woolen system..... | 64.0 | 90.8 | -29.5 |
| Worsted system..... | 92.9 | 177.9 | -47.8 |
| Carpet class, foreign..... | 89.4 | 105.6 | -15.3 |
| Woolen system..... | 87.8 | 101.9 | -13.8 |
| Worsted system..... | 1.6 | 3.7 | -56.8 |

Facts for Industry "Wool Manufactures,"

Bureau of the Census

TEXTILE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

DUPONT WEAVING LAB EXPANSION UNDER WAY

Construction will start in September on additional facilities for the weaving laboratory of the DuPont Rayon Department at Newport, Del. A new section will be added to the laboratory to provide space for new equipment for research in the dyeing of fabrics and the staple processing of new fibers. The new unit is scheduled for completion by next summer.

Journal of Commerce, September 13, 1949, p. 15.

OILSEEDS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

NEAR RECORD FATS AND OILS PRODUCTION INDICATED

Production of fats and oils in the current crop season, one of the most favorable on record, may reach 11.2 billion pounds, only slightly less than the peak achieved in 1943. Greater supplies permitted exports for October 1948-June 1949 of 600 million pounds more primary fats than in the same months of 1947-48, and also enabled an increase of more than 500 million pounds in stocks. However, domestic consumption of fats in the first 9 months of this season was 120 million pounds lower than a year earlier. More cottonseed oil and creamery butter, but less soybean, linseed, and coconut oils, and inedible tallow and grease, were used.

Industry Report, Fats & Oils, August 1949, p. 3.

1949 OILSEED CROPS UNDER LAST YEAR BUT ABOVE AVERAGE

August 1 conditions indicated that total output of oilseeds from 1949 crops, although not as large as last year, will be well above the 1938-47 average. Production of cottonseed, based upon an estimated cotton crop of 14.8 million bales, may total 5,962,000 tons, 21 thousand tons more than last year and the most since 1937. Flaxseed production is indicated to be 42 million bushels, substantially below the 1948 crop, as a result of reduced yields, but 12 million bushels above the 1938-47 average. Soybean production may be 202.4 million bushels, larger than any previous year except 1948. Peanut production may be nearly 1.8 billion pounds, the first time in 8 years that peanut production has fallen below 2 billion pounds.

Fats and Oils Situation, BAE, August 1949, p. 5.

DUTCH PRODUCER DEVELOPS IMPROVED ANTI-RANCIDITY CHEMICAL

Every year many thousands of tons of edible fats, oils, and fat-containing food-stuffs are spoiled by rancidity. Not only does this spoilage represent an enormous loss, but rancid fats are also a menace to public health. In Holland, research for anti-oxidants has been stimulated by the National Council for Applied Scientific Research and executed in the laboratories of their Central Institute for Nutrition Research. The workers of this Institute have shown that the esters of gallic acid with the higher alcohols of the fatty series guarantee a far more general protection than any other compound suggested for this use without affecting the taste and odor of the products in any way. The results of experiments, according to this Institute, indicate clearly that no danger at all lies in the use of gallates of higher fatty alcohols for the stabilization of all fats in the human diet.

Journal of Commerce, September 19, 1949, p. 13A.

VEGETABLE OIL AND MEAL PRICES ADVANCE IN AUGUST; DECLINE BY MID-SEPTEMBER

Prices of edible vegetable oils in August increased 30 to 40 percent over the July averages, the first substantial advance since the spring of 1948. By mid-September, however, moderate declines occurred in peanut, soybean and corn oil prices. Coconut and linseed oil dropped below July levels, but tung oil prices continued to advance steadily. Meal prices followed somewhat the same price pattern as vegetable oils, ranging from moderate to very substantial gains in August over July with subsequent declines by mid-September.

Table 8.- Prices of vegetable oils and meals

| | Sept. 1949 | Aug. 1949 | July 1949 | Sept. 1948 |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <u>Cents per pound</u> | | | | |
| OILS 1/ | Sept. 12 | | | |
| Cottonseed oil..... | 12.0 | 15.6 | 11.0 | 22.1 |
| Peanut oil..... | 17.0 | 18.2 | 13.9 | 25.2 |
| Soybean oil..... | 12.3 | 13.0 | 9.7 | 22.8 |
| Corn oil..... | 14.5 | 14.7 | 11.4 | 23.0 |
| Coconut oil 2/..... | 16.5 | 19.1 | 17.8 | 28.1 |
| Linseed oil 3/..... | 20.8 | 24.3 | 25.1 | 29.1 |
| Tung oil 4/..... | 26.5 | 24.3 | 22.4 | 22.4 |
| <u>Dollars per ton</u> | | | | |
| MEALS 5/ | Sept. 17 | | | |
| Cottonseed meal 6/ | 56.00 | 69.90 | 68.25 | 62.80 |
| Peanut meal 7/ | 74.00 | 81.10 | 69.30 | 66.30 |
| Soybean meal 8/ | 76.00 | 100.30 | 85.55 | 81.50 |
| Coconut meal 9/ | 54.00 | 55.80 | 57.60 | 83.80 |
| Linseed meal 10/ | 58.00 | 62.90 | 80.90 | 64.50 |

1/ Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except as noted. From Oil Paint and Drug Reporter, (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

2/ Crude, tanks, carlots, Pacific Coast. Three cents added to allow for tax on first domestic processing.

3/ Raw, drums, carlots, New York.

4/ Drums, carlots, New York.

5/ Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs (daily quotation) and Feed Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

6/ 41 percent protein, Memphis.

7/ 41 percent protein S. E. Mills.

8/ 41 percent protein, Chicago.

9/ 19 percent protein, Los Angeles.

10/ 34 percent protein, Minneapolis.

11/ Preliminary.

NEW LEVER UNIT TO USE 100 MILLION LBS. OF DOMESTIC FATS, OILS

Charles Luckman, president of Lever Bros. Co., Cambridge, Mass., told a Senate subcommittee here that his concern would use nearly 100 million pounds of domestic fats and oils to produce soaps and other products on the West Coast as soon as a new 25 million dollar Los Angeles plant goes into operation. Commenting on synthetic detergents, Mr. Luckman told the Senate group, these products have helped to create their own markets. Use of synthetics last year, he said,

did not reduce the home use of soap below the 1940-41 level, but did prevent an expansion of possibly 11 to 16 percent in soap usage that otherwise might have taken place.

Daily News Record, August 15, 1949, p.10.

COPRA: TAX ON COPRA REIMPOSED

President Truman has reimposed the 2-cents-a-pound processing tax on copra and coconut oil imported from countries other than the Phillipines, effective August 27. The tax was taken off during the fats and oils shortage of the wartime period, but the supply situation is greatly improved now. International allocation of these products was discontinued in February of this year and the present Phillipine production is said to be ample for United States needs. The processing tax on Phillipine coconut oil will remain at 3 cents per pound, but the tax from other foreign sources will be increased from 3 to 5 cents.

Soybean Digest, August 1949, p. 37.

FLAXSEED: 1950 FLAXSEED PRICE SUPPORT CUT TO 60 PERCENT OF PARITY

The Agriculture Department has announced it will cut price support for the 1950 flaxseed crop to 60 percent of parity. The 1949 flaxseed output was supported at 90 percent of parity. The Department asserted that farmers had disregarded a government request this year to limit flaxseed plantings to 3 million acres and instead planted 5 million acres. Flaxseed supplies, now equal to two years' needs, include the 1949 crop, estimated at 42 million bushels, and the July 1, 1949, carryover of 20 million bushels.

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, 1949, p.1.

GUAR: A NEW LEGUME FOR THE SOUTHWEST

Chief among new crops being considered by scientists at Purdue University is guar, a soil improving legume offering many possibilities for industrial use. Guar is a native of India where it is grown widely for cattle feed, and it is sometimes used as food. It has been produced commercially during the past 4 or 5 years in southern Arizona, New Mexico and California. Existing varieties require warm weather and a relatively long growing season of 135 to 165 days. They are drouth resistant, but grow well in regions of average rainfall. The plant is vinelike, bearing large leaves and clusters of bean pods containing peashaped seeds. Yields of 1,500 pounds of seed per acre have been obtained on fertile soil. The seed, when processed, is suitable principally for a paper sizing material, or for use in the manufacture of plastics, films and industrial adhesives. It is also a valuable aid in the hydration of paper pulp. Guar flour, by itself, may be used as a thickening agent for salad dressing, ice cream mixes, bakery products and other foods.

Soybean Digest, August 1949, p. 20.

NEW OLEOMARGARINE PLANT TO BEGIN OPERATION

A new \$1,500,000 oleomargarine and shortening plant at Wilson, Arkansas, will begin operation by September. Jim Crain, manager of the huge Wilson interests and president of the farmers' cooperative which is building the plant, stated that to his knowledge it will be the first oleomargarine plant in that part of the South. "Cotton grown in this section will provide seeds which will be crushed at our oil mill, the Delta Products Co., and this oil will be used in the new plant," he stated.

Oil Mill Gazetteer, August 1949, p. 27.

PEANUTS: DOMESTIC USE OF SHELLLED PEANUTS UP

Domestic use of shelled peanuts, including crushing stock, totaled 666 million pounds during the 1948-49 season, compared with 604 million pounds last season, it was reported. Edible grade shelled peanuts used during the past season totaled 481 million pounds, 12 million less than the 493 million pounds used during 1947-48. Fewer shelled peanuts went into candy and peanut butter this year.

Table 9.- Shelled peanuts (raw basis) reported used in primary products

| Reported use | Season Sept. 1 - August 31 | | | | Sept. 1 through August 31 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------|
| | 1946-47 | 1947-48 | 1948 | 1949 1/ | |
| | pounds | pounds | pounds | pounds | |
| <u>Edible grades used in:</u> | | | | | |
| Peanut candy..... | 118,983 | 94,166 | 94,166 | 83,526 | |
| Salted peanuts..... | 151,218 | 117,155 | 117,155 | 119,106 | |
| Peanut butter 2/..... | 285,833 | 276,506 | 276,506 | 271,583 | |
| Other products..... | 11,693 | 5,493 | 5,493 | 6,945 | |
| Total edible grades: | 567,727 | 493,266 | 493,266 | 481,160 | |
| <u>Oil stock 3/:</u> | | | | | |
| Crushed for oil, cake and meal.... | 162,966 | 110,999 | 110,999 | 185,159 | |
| Total all grades..... | 730,693 | 604,265 | 604,265 | 666,319 | |

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Total, including peanut butter for use in candy, sandwiches, and other products.

3/ Includes ungraded or straight run peanuts.

From: Peanuts Stocks and Processing, BAE, USDA, September 19, 1949.

RICE: TEXAS SOLVENT PLANT YIELDS RICE BRAN OIL

Rice bran oil is being produced in the first continuous solvent extraction plant for that purpose, at the Houston, Texas, mill of the American Rice Growers' Cooperative Association. About 50 tons of rice bran will be processed daily to yield approximately 10 tons of raw crude oil. The residue bran will contain about 15 percent protein. An Allis-Chalmers hexane unit is used for the processing.

Chemurgic Digest, July 1949, p.18.

SOYBEAN: SIXTY-TON SOYBEAN SOLVENT PLANT TO OPEN IN MISSISSIPPI

A new \$250,000 oil mill to be known as Belzoni Oil Works is under construction at Belzoni, Miss. It is a 60-ton solvent extraction plant to process soybeans and will have a capacity for storing 250,000 bushels of soybeans. It is expected to be in operation by October 1.

Soybean Digest, August 1949, p.30.

SOYBEAN: SOYBEAN SUPPORT PRICES ESTABLISHED BY U.S.D.A.

Price support of \$2.11 a bushel for 1949-crop green and yellow soybeans grading U.S. No. 2 and containing not more than 14 percent moisture was announced on September 1 by the Department of Agriculture. Brown, black, and mixed soybeans will be supported at \$1.91 per bushel. Premiums and discounts will apply to other grades. The price support is based on 90 percent of the comparable price for all soybeans on Sept. 1, 1949. To be eligible for loan or purchase agreements, the soybeans must grade U.S. No. 4 or better, and must not contain more than 14 percent moisture.

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Sept. 5, 1949, p. 3.

TUNG: TUNG OIL SUPPLIES SEEN EXHAUSTED DURING NOVEMBER

Existing supplies of tung oil will become exhausted by the middle of November if the consumption continues at the level experienced during the first six months of the year and unless there is a substantial increase in imports. The Department of Commerce reports that tung oil receipts in the first 6 months of this year totaled only 29 million pounds, as contrasted with 62 million pounds imported during the same period a year ago. The drop this year has been particularly evident since March, with imports in that month declining to 2.9 million pounds, from the February total of 11.3 million pounds. Receipts fell off successively in following months, until in June only 921 thousand pounds were received. This was the lowest monthly total in more than three years.

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Sept. 12, 1949, p. 4.

TUNG: 1948 TUNG OIL CONSUMPTION NEAR RECORD HIGH

Tung oil generally ranks third among the drying oils utilized in the U.S., with its consumption exceeded only by that of linseed oil and, in recent years, soybean oil. In the prewar period 1937-41, domestic consumption averaged 96 million pounds, 11 percent of the total drying oils used. In 1948, a year of near-record tung oil imports, consumption reached 130 million pounds, and comprised about the same proportion of the total as in the prewar period. The industries leading in tung oil consumption are the paint and varnish, linoleum and oilcloth, and printing ink industries. The paint and varnish field alone generally takes from 70 to 80 percent of total utilization. In addition to these products, tung oil finds important applications in the manufacture of insulation materials, wall board, automobile brake linings, calking compounds, core oils, artificial leather, and as a waterproofing agent.

Table 10.- Utilization of tung oil in drying oil products, 1937-39 and years 1946-48

| | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | Average 1937-39 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| | : 1,000 | : 1,000 | : 1,000 | : 1,000 | : 1,000 |
| | : pounds | : pounds | : pounds | : pounds | : pounds |
| Factory consumption..... | 120,263 | 88,339 | 28,959 | 21,566 | 82,316 |
| Paint and varnish..... | 91,700 | 68,968 | 25,458 | 16,939 | 73,957 |
| Linoleum and oilcloth..... | 8,943 | 5,254 | 104 | 2,337 | 3,810 |
| Printing inks..... | 1,426 | 1,397 | 521 | 156 | 2,328 |
| Other 1/..... | 18,194 | 12,720 | 2,876 | 2,134 | 2,221 |
| Total consumption of tung oil | | | | | |
| in drying-oil products..... | 129,739 | 106,076 | 35,632 | 22,672 | 96,365 |
| Total consumption of all fats and | | | | | |
| oils in drying-oil products 2/..... | 1,082,039 | 1,014,600 | 940,278 | 892,262 | 850,470 |
| Tung oil as a percent of total..... | 12.0 | 10.5 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 11.3 |

1/ Includes insulation materials, linings and packings, resins, protective coatings, other coated fabrics, calking compounds, and core oils.

2/ Including tall oil and secondary fatty materials.

Source: Industry Report, Fats and Oils, August 1949.

LINTERS AND CELLULOSE

LINTERS PULP AND WOOD PULP PRICES UNCHANGED

Cellulose prices remained unchanged during the month of August.

Table 11.- Average annual price of purified linters and dissolving wood pulp, 1946-48 and monthly quotations May-August 1949
(Cents per pound)

| | | | Wood Pulp 2/ | |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Purified linters 1/ | Standard viscose grade | High-tenacity viscose grade | Acetate & cupra- grade |
| 1946..... | 9.50 | 5.60 | 5.85 | 6.15 |
| 1947..... | 16.50 | 7.03 | 7.44 | 8.04 |
| 1948..... | 11.25 | 7.93 | 8.44 | 9.20 |
| 1949, May..... | 9.00 | 8.20 | 8.70 | 9.50 |
| 1949, June..... | 8.70 | 7.95 | 8.40 | 8.90 |
| 1949, July..... | 8.00 | 7.95 | 8.40 | 8.90 |
| 1949, August..... | 8.00 | 7.95 | 8.40 | 8.90 |

1/ Weighted averages, 1946-47. On 7 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. pulp plant. Average freight to users is 0.5 cent per pound. Prices supplied by a producer.

2/ Average of average monthly prices, 1946-47. Compiled from Rayon Organon and from letters to us from producers. Wood pulp prices are on a 10 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. domestic producing mill, full freight and 3 percent transportation tax allowed, December 1, 1947, on; freight equalized with that of Atlantic or Gulf port carrying lowest backhaul rate to destination plus 3 percent backhaul charges, prior to December 1.

PRICES OF FELTING GRADE LINTERS ADVANCE SHARPLY; CHEMICAL LINTERS DECLINE

Prices for felting grade (grades 1 through 4) linters advanced sharply during August, and Grade 2 averaged 8.67 cents per pound against 8.05 cents in August 1948. The current outlook for both demand and prices of felting grade linters is brighter than a year ago. In contrast, a downward trend in prices of chemical linters continued through August with Grade 6 dropping below 2 cents a pound for the first time in several years. The average price for cotton linters in 1948-49 was about 35 percent lower than in 1947-48 and less than one-half the record high for 1946-47. (Table 12, page 16).

Weekly Cotton Linters Review, Sept. 9, 1949.

RECORD BREAKING PULPWOOD HARVEST IN 1948

A record breaking 1948 pulpwood harvest of 11,379,000 cords, together with the opening of new pulp mills, has kept the South well ahead of all rivals as America's top producer and user of pulpwood, the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, has announced. The South's 1948 harvest was more than 2 million cords greater than the 1947 cut of 9,242,000 cords, which in itself was a record. At the close of 1948, the South's mills had the capacity to turn out more than 18 thousand tons of pulp daily, or as much as all other regions of the country combined. Five new mills opened last year--one at Natchez, Miss., two at Macon, Ga., one at Savannah, Ga., and one at Pensacola, Fla. Another mill, for making newsprint and other pulp, is under construction at Childersburg, Ala., and plans have been announced for a mill at Natchez, Miss., to use hardwood timber for manufacturing pulp for rayon. In addition, expansion or modernization plans are under way or have been announced for 10 or more existing mills.

Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturing, Aug. 15, 1949, p.16.

Table 12.- Cotton linters: Production, consumption by industries, stocks, and prices, United States, for specified months

| | August 1949 | July 1949 | June 1949 | May 1949 | August 1948 |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1,000 bales | 1,000 bales | 1,000 bales | 1,000 bales | 1,000 bales |
| Production 1/..... | 4/ | 55.0 | 57.9 | 80.0 | 53.0 |
| Consumption 2/..... | 136.4 | 103.1 | 122.0 | 126.4 | 104.8 |
| Quantity bleached | 75.6 | 52.9 | 72.1 | 79.8 | 57.8 |
| Other industries..... | 60.8 | 50.3 | 49.9 | 46.6 | 47.4 |
| Stocks 3/..... | 4/ | 456.0 | 503.0 | 589.0 | 317.0 |
| | | | | | |
| Prices | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| No. 2 grade, per lb..... | 8.67 | 7.82 | 7.84 | 7.84 | 8.05 |
| No. 4 grade, per lb..... | 5.16 | 4.34 | 4.32 | 4.32 | 5.77 |
| No. 6 grade, per lb..... | 1.92 | 2.04 | 2.57 | 2.75 | 3.74 |

1/ From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

2/ From Facts for Industry, Cotton and Linters, Bureau of the Census.

3/ Total stocks in consuming establishments, public storage and warehouses, and oil mills. Stocks at end of the month. From Facts for Industry, Cotton Linters, Bureau of the Census.

4/ Data not available.

5/ Preliminary.

NEW \$12,000,000 PULP MILL OPENS IN CANADA

A 12 million dollar pulp mill, said to be the largest in the world, has been opened in the northern Ontario town of Iroquois Falls by the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, a Canadian press dispatch reported recently. The site is 150 miles north of Sudbury. The plant contains ten huge motors, each generating 500 horsepower, which operate twenty wood grinders weighing five tons each. It also includes the most modern of machinery and mechanical devices in the wood pulp industry. Construction began seventeen months ago.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, August 25, 1949, p. 1.

NEW \$9,000,000 PAPER MILL TO BE BUILT IN INDIA

The United Provinces Government in India is shortly to set up a \$9,000,000 paper mill with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons, according to the India Information Service in Washington. Nearly 2,000,000 tons of bagasse a year will be consumed to produce paper. It is estimated from the supplies of sugar cane material available in India that nearly 300,000 tons of paper can be manufactured annually, increasing India's 100,000-ton production three times.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, August 30, 1949, p. 3.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

CASEIN: ARGENTINA CUTS CASEIN PRICE 20 PERCENT

Argentina's Minister of Finance has announced that exports of casein will be granted the so-called "preferential" exchange rate of 398.01 pesos for \$100 instead of 335.82 which has prevailed so far. This means a price reduction of about 20 percent for the foreign buyer of Argentine casein. The actual value of \$1 in this country is now about 9 pesos.

Daily News Record, August 24, 1949, p.13.

NEW INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL PLANT STARTS OPERATION

A new alcohol plant, said to be the newest, most advanced and largest alcohol plant using sulfite liquor as its raw material, has started operations on property adjacent to the Gatineau, Quebec, Mills of the Canadian International Paper Co. The plant was completed at a cost of \$3 million, and is owned and operated by Commercial Alcohols, Ltd., one of the largest producers of industrial alcohol in Canada. It is designed to produce 9,000 U. S. gallons of alcohol from 900,000 gallons of liquor effluent a day. This is the third sulfite liquor plant in North America, the first being that of the Ontario Paper Co., Thorold, Ontario, the other that of the Puget Sound Pulp and Timber Co., Bellingham, Washington.

Pulp and Paper, August 1949, p. 44.

U. S. LEASES EXPERIMENTAL INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL PLANT

A wartime experimental industrial alcohol plant at Springfield, Oregon, has been leased for five years by the General Services Administration to Charles B. Hudson, Jr., William S. Hudson and Mrs. W. E. Mitchell, all of Americus, Georgia. The lessees propose to rehabilitate and make necessary changes in the plant to determine whether production of industrial alcohol from wood waste is practicable. Rental for the first three years will be \$100 a year; for the fourth and fifth years on a scale based on the prevailing price of industrial alcohol, with a minimum guaranteed rental of \$5,000 a month, payable in advance. The plant was erected to utilize waste products from timber in the manufacture of ethyl alcohol and alcohol by-products by the wood hydrolysis process.

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, September 5, 1949, p. 3.

